IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: OSHIKI, et al.

Serial No.: 10/574,272

Filed: 3/31/2006

Title: Ultrasonic Probe, Ultrasonographic Device, and

Ultrasonographic Method

Art Unit: 3737

Conf. No.: 9796

<u>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</u> <u>UNDER 37 CFR 1.97 & 1.98</u>

July 21, 2009

Mail Stop: DD

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In the matter of the above-identified application, applicants are submitting herewith a copy of a communication issued in connection with a corresponding foreign application and a listing of a US document listed on the attached Form(s) PTO/SB/08A and/or PTO/SB/08B for the Examiner's consideration.

This information disclosure statement is being submitted before the mailing date of a first office action on the merits and with the following certification specified in 37 CFR 1.97(e).

On information and belief, I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

Each of the documents listed on the attached form equivalent to Form(s) PTO/SB/08A and/or PTO/SB/08B is in the English language.

It is respectfully requested that this information disclosure statement be considered by the Examiner.

Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including excess claim fees, to Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (389.46065X00), and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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